

**Alaska Anthropological Association
Board Meeting April 3, 2008
Minutes**

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER in Anchorage (Arctic Studies Center) 1:05 PM

II. PRESENT: Aron Crowell (President), Dawn Biddison (Treasurer), Karlene Leeper, Joan Dale, Amy Steffian (by phone), Daniel Montieth (by phone), Lisa Frink (by phone). All board members were present, providing a quorum. Karlene Leeper accepted appointment as Secretary, and agreed to record the minutes

III. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Jan. 4, 2008) were accepted without changes.

IV. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: none

V. REPORTS

A. President (Aron Crowell): Aron has worked with Stephen Mahoney, the attorney retained by the Association, to prepare Alaska Articles of Incorporation. The Association's existing constitution and by-laws will together comprise its official By-Laws for purposes of state incorporation. Incorporation must be approved by the state before the Association can re-apply for federal tax exempt status. Aron has also prepared a calendar, is working on committees, and is revising the 2008 budget for board approval.

B. Treasurer (Dawn Biddison): The general checking account balance was \$36,056.72 as of 2/29/08; the Vanguard investment account balance was \$86,650.69 as of 4/1/08. There were 193 memberships as of April 1. Re: the journal, Volume 5(1) cost a total of \$7642 for production and mailing; 556 copies were printed. Dawn proposed that the membership form be amended to include two names on institutional memberships, for purposes of meeting registration, and that the most recent back issues of the journal be priced higher than older back issues. For identity security, the Association will black out credit card numbers on registration forms as soon as the payment is processed; this was done for the 2007 forms.

C. Alaska Journal of Anthropology: Owen Mason was not able to attend the meeting; Aron reported that Volume 5(2) is on the way, to be mailed in May. The board discussed when to produce Volume 6 (1 & 2), the Workman festschrift. Editing is virtually complete, and the journal is one calendar year behind, arguing for publishing Volume 6 (1/2) in 2008. However, this would be producing two volumes in one year, and the checking balance is insufficient to cover the additional volume, advance costs of the 2009 annual meeting, and other expenses.

On May 15, the Board voted by email to publish Volume 6 (a double issue) in late summer or early fall of 2008, using a draw-down of interest income from our reserve fund, not to exceed \$12,000. The motion was by Amy Steffian, with a second by Joan Dale; all five Board members voted in favor.

D. Annual Meeting: Dan Montieth has reserved Centennial Hall in Juneau for March 12-14 for the 2009 annual meeting. The opening reception will be Wednesday March 11 at the State Museum or at Sealaska Corporation. He is working on securing catering and hotel rooms.

VI. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Web site: Couloir Graphics is the company that is designing the new website. Amy Steffian divided assignments for web site content among the board members. Joan Dale will collect photos for the web site that are 300 dpi or better.

B. Publication of newsletter: The Board voted in favor of publishing the newsletter online only, once the new web site is in place. This is a cost-saving measure.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Articles of Incorporation: Dan Montieth motioned to accept the Articles as prepared, Amy Steffian seconded; and the motion was passed unanimously. The document was subsequently signed by three Board members – Dale, Leeper, Steffian – as the official Incorporators, and submitted to the State through Stephen Mahoney. Crowell noted that some of the Association by-laws need to be updated (they were last changed in 2005) to reflect the new financial and membership arrangements. By-laws may be changed by Board action, and Crowell will draft changes for approval.

B. Budget: The 2008 budget was not complete at the time of the meeting, but Crowell submitted it to the Board for approval by email on April 29. The Association is projected to have higher costs in 2008 (\$64,644) than in 2007 (\$39,320) with about the same amount of income (\$47,489 in 2008, \$47,935 in 2007), and will therefore run a deficit of \$17,155. The principal reasons for higher costs in 2008 are:

1. A much more expensive meeting in Anchorage (\$30,695) than in Fairbanks (\$19,117)
2. New web site (\$7865)
3. One-time cost of credits toward 2008 membership as we made the transition to combined membership and AJA subscription (\$1609)
4. Service fees for treasurer, accountant, lawyer (\$3400)
5. Student scholarships, which were not awarded in 2007 (\$1500)

On May 15, Amy Steffian motioned to approve the budget, seconded by Joan Dale; it was approved by unanimous vote.

C. Calendar: A 2008 calendar of board meetings, annual meeting, publication dates for the newsletter, and other association dates and deadlines, prepared by Crowell, was approved by the Board.

D. Appointment of awards and other committees: This is the task of the President. Crowell reported that this is in process. The Board discussed student paper awards and scheduling of papers to be presented during the meetings, such as encouraging submittal of papers from fall

semester classes. The Association needs to better publicize the award and have papers submitted in February for review.

E. Treasurer fee: The Board approved an increase to the Treasurer's stipend from \$1000 to \$2000 per year. Dawn Biddison has spent 130 hours on work as Treasurer since Sept. 2007, and it is projected that the normal work load will be about 150 hours per year. Even with the higher stipend, this is still in effect a partially volunteer position.

F. Archaeological Legacy Institute. The Board decided to table until the July meeting a request for \$250/year in support from the Archaeological Legacy Institute.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM.